C I T Y M A N A G E R B U L L E T I N

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CITY MANAGERS' ASSOCIATION

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Harrison G. Otis, Executive Secretary

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 5 MAY, 1919

"MERELY FORMS OF BOLSHEVISM"
"WITH PRUSSIAN RUTHLESS TENDENCIES"

Gentlemen, you are, -- but you surely must know what you are. If there has been any doubt as to what you are, it has all been removed by Herr (?) KOEHNE. Now that the facts have come out and you are exposed, you will, of course, hasten to resign. Any man who is a part of a form of Bolshevism, with its Prussian ruthless tendencies, after world defeat, and something of an ape at that, must sever diplomatic relations with us. Here goes:

(Copy)

Indianapolis, Indiana,
May 25, 1919.

Mr. R. E. Tracy, Director,
Bureau of Governmental Research,
Chamber of Commerce,
Indianapolis, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Respecting the article "City Manager Plan Growing" appearing in the Star, Column 3, page 12 of part 1, issue of the 25th inst. evidently emanating from your office, I beg to call attention to the following fundamental facts:

The City Manager as well as the Commission Manager forms of municipal government, as practised most, are, within the United States, merely forms of Bolshevism, and should only appeal to, and be advocated by, those opposed to our government of a Republic (enforceable throughout every part of the United States by Article 4, section 4 of Federal Constitution) and who so much favor the German monarchical form of government, with its Prussian ruthless tendencies, that they are still, after world defeat, willing ti aid and continue Prussian pre-war propaganda in the United States, to which propaganda, the City Manager and

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Commission Manager forms of municipal government in the United States owe their principal growth. These forms of government, being in substance the forms of government of the German cities, and city-states. The aim of such propaganda was and is to accomplish the downfall of our government of a Republic by honeycombing it with subdivisions of government monarchical in form, as has caused the downfall of practically all of the many republics that have heretofore fallen, due to the hopeless irreconcilability and antagonism of the Republic and the Monarchical forms of government. (Editor's note: "Whew")

.... From the word "Research" in the name of your Bureau, and the high standing of your organization, I take it that it is desirous of getting fuller light upon this subject, and if so, any evening any representative body of your organization gets together for this purpose, I would be pleased, on a few days notice, to give them convincing evidence of the unpatriotic and disruptive tendencies of such forms of government.

With no interests to serve, other than a lover of our Republic, unalterably opposed to Prussian "kulture" and to German monarchical forms of government even in Germany, and especially all tendencies to Prussianize America by aping the form of government of the Prussian cities and city-states, I am

(Signed) IRA CHASE KOEHNE
Hotel Williams

DAYTON'S WELFARE WORK

The monthly report of Dayton's Welfare Department for April is so full of good ideas and inspiration that it may well serve as a model. Defects are frankly admitted with no attempt to gloss over conditions that need rectifying.

Most cities would be content to rest upon their laurels if they could match Dayton's record of having the lowest death rate of infants under one year of age of any city in the State, yet the report calls attention to the high rate of mortality of infants under 30 days of age and outlines a campaign to solve the problem.

The free employment bureau during the month received 1,270 applications for jobs. 1,019 requests for help and placed 830 applicants. The city has plowed 1,727 lots for gardens.

A recently employed social investigator is checking up applicants for free hospital treatment with a noticeable falling off in the number. In one case, it developed that the request for such charity assistance was made because of the amount of money required to repair an automobile injured in the accident.

WHY INSIST ON HOME-MADE MANAGERS?

The little city of Ranger, Texas adopted the commission-manager plan at an election held on April 3rd. The charter is quite progressive in many respects though it follows the tendency of Texan cities to specify a definite short term for the manager. Perhaps the chief objection to be registered by those who are advocating the manager plan, is the requirement that all employees, including the city manager, be residents of the city prior to their appointment.

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This principle denies the possibility of a professional city manager. It discourages the special training so greatly needed in many cases. Worst of all, it removes the hope and incentive of promotion from one city to another.

Ranger is not the only city to yield to this short-sighted policy. Phoenix, Ariz. and Wheeling, West Va. have like requirements, but these are larger cities. A large city may have half a dozen qualified men to choose from. In a small city, to insist that the city engineer and the city manager be local men certainly reduces the list of eligibles who will accept public office of limited tenure, to a very small group.

Of course Ranger may produce a good manager. But, if he makes good, Ranger can't keep him. The demand for experienced managers is too great. There are too many cities anxious to profit at Ranger's expense. She may develop two or even three good managers, but if she continues to insist upon home grown managers, the supply will soon be such that the call from outside will not be so loud. When that time comes, watch out for a call from the taxpayers. Ranger enters the new field with self-inflicted hobbles.

Many of our most successful managers are "home boys", but most of them have the satisfaction of feeling that they secured and hold their position on the "basis of merit and fitness only" and not because there were but one or two competitors. The average man of city manager caliber doesn't desire a "protective tariff wall" that lets him win appointment by default.

Ranger's first city manager is M. A. Turner. One of his first acts was to join the C. M. A. He gives evidence of being quite the right sort. When Mr. Turner is promoted to a larger city, we trust his successor may be as progressive.

OPENINGS

ALCOA, TENN.

Population, 3,500. A commission-manager charter was granted by the last legislature, to take effect July 1st. Alcoa is an industrial town, taking its name from the Aluminum Company of America. Evidence is strong that the manager to be has already been selected, but applications for the combined position of city auditor and city judge are requested. The candidate should be able to install and operate a modern municipal accounting system. The salary will range from $1,800 to $2,400. Apply to V. J. Hultquist, Superintendent of construction, Aluminum Co. of America, Maryville, Tenn.

ALLIANCE, NEB. - is considering adoption of city manager government and asks to be put in touch with suitable candidates for the position of manager. The salary will approximate $3,500. Address Mr. Ben Sallows, Editor, The Alliance Times.

GASTONIA, N. C. - Population 20,000, adopted "planD", the North Carolina synonym for commission-manager government, at an election held April 16th, by a vote of 162 to 3. The new plan takes effect at once. No manager had been selected at last report.

ELIZABETH CITY, N. C. Population 10,000, has been operating under the manager plan for some four years. The last manager received a salary of but $1,200. The incoming council is seeking a new manager, who will be paid a salary of $2,400, the maximum allowed by the charter. Apply to Winfield A. Worth.

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TALLAHASSEE, FLA. - will soon be in the list of commission-manager cities. The new charter follows closely the lines of the "model charter" and the St. Augustine charter. It has been approved by the city council and is now before the legislature. Mayor Guyte P. McCord can furnish additional information.

WOODSTOCK, NEW BRUNSWICK, - Population 4,500, is seeking a man to serve as city engineer and superintendent of public works. He will be given very large administrative powers approximating those of a town manager. Wm. P. Hammersley, general manager of Norwood, Mass. recently explained the town-manager plan at Woodstock and has been asked to suggest candidates. The salary will range from $2,500 to $3,000.

YOAKUM, TEXAS; MCCRACKEN, KANSAS, and MC ALESTER, OKLA., have not made appointments yet. The last named will not be made until late summer.

MICHIGAN MANAGERS AT KAZOO

Kalamazoo entertained the Michigan city managers April 11th. This was the second gathering of the "Michigan Chapter" and was held in connection with Manager Freeman's city exhibit. Those attending were: H. H. Freeman, Kalamazoo; F. H. Locke, Grand Rapids; A. D. Smith, St. Johns; F. L. Jenkins, Portland; O. O. Johnson, Three Rivers; R. D. Tripp and Jas. E. Niles, Petoskey; Geo. Johnston, Cadillac; G. A. Abbott, Otsego; P. H. Beauvais, Manistee; and City Engineer Branch, representing Geo O. Weitzel of Royal Oak. Both the exhibit and the meeting were pronounced successes. The next meeting will be held at Manistee.

ASSOCIATION FINANCES

Among the innovations to be noted in our Fifth Yearbook will be the omission of the Association's financial statements. This is due to the feeling that we may well keep such matters "within the family", now that we have the Bulletin available. Comparative statements are presented herewith.

Receipts

	1915	1916		1917		1918
					('17 accts)	
Cash balance bro't forward		28.78				
Dues	105.	115.00		125.00	20.00	260.00
Advertising		341.00		194.50	45.00	400.30
Sales		83.80		10.35	27.90	225.54
Deficit (notes)			236.00			
less cash on hands			28.38			
Net Deficit				207.62		
Special Assessment					50.00	
	$105.	$568.58		$536.47	$142.90	$885.84
						142.90
						$1,028.74

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Disbursements

	1915	1916	1917		1918
Debt Service			(Int.) 6.67	('17 debt)	207.62
Stenographic		101.20	85.00		83.08
Postage, Exp., Frght.	14.67	30.15	19.30		165.01
Telephone, Telegraph	1.17				2.10
Pub. Yearbook	54.00	416.50	412.50		520.90
Prting., Stat'ry	6.40	13.05	14.00		59.03
Surplus (cash)	28.78	7.89			
	$105.00	$568.58	$536.47		$1,028.74

It will be noted that we paid our debts and broke even last year. This year bids fair to be fairly successful. No effort will be made to carry over any cash balance, and all available funds will be converted to increased service. It is too early to give many 1919 figures, but those available have the right ring. Membership dues already received total $475. of which $300. is from active members. We've booked about $1,000 worth of advertising for the Yearbook and over half was paid for in advance.

The office work is getting so heavy that it will require a half-time stenographer for the balance of the year. Daily mail received averages twenty letters and this will easily run up to fifty when the Yearbook is out. Some of these days, the secretaryship will be a fullsized job; meanwhile, we burn the midnight juice for the good of the cause and bespeak your leniency and continued cooperation.

OPPONENTS WON OVER

G. J. Long, manager of Webster City, Iowa, reports that at the recent election, those who had originally opposed the adoption of the manager plan in 1916, chose as a leading plank of their 1919 platform: "We stand squarely for the City Manager System". In spite of the war, the average yearly saving under the new plan has been more than $35,000 and the increase in service has been greater than this saving.

ALBUQUERQUE - CHARTER SUSTAINED

ALBUQUERQUE, N. MEX. - An unsuccessful attempt was made to induce the Legislature to authorize an election to consider the question of reverting to the aldermanic plan of government. An amendment to the charter, however, was approved by the Legislature, but was killed upon referendum to the Albuquerque voters. The chief features of the proposed amendment were the increase in the number of commissioners and the requirement that they represent different districts of the city, a close approximation to the old ward system. It is said that a great deal of money was spent by those who endeavored to thus change the charter.

NEAR-MANAGER PLANS LACK PERMANENCY

JOHNSON CITY, TENN. drops from the list of "near-manager" cities by the adoption of a commission charter, May 6th. Johnson City's letterhead bears the legend: "Municipal Government Operated Under the City Management Plan Since July, 1909", yet the so-called manager has never been much more than a city engineer with a few added duties. His salary has been but $1,500

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while the recorder received $1,800. W. O. Dyer, the last manager is an engineer of high standing, and has given but part-time service, never claiming that he was a bona fide city manager. He is now a candidate for commissioner of streets, buildings and improvements. The election is to be held June 18.

SOUTH BOSTON, VA. slipped noislessly into and out of the "near-manager" field last year, and the news of the postmortem has just been received. The manager served under the first six months of 1918 under ordinance provisions. His resignation in July marked the demise of the plan.

STAUNTON, VA. may join the list of regular commission-manager cities soon. Her eleven years of "near-manager" government have been an improvement on the old form, but the rather cumbersome machinery composed of a council of 20 members and a city manager leave much to be desired. It is intimated that a strong feeling exists that Staunton, the inventor of the first manager plan, should discard the outgrown model for a more modern vehicle.

MOREHEAD CITY, N. C. has been operating under a "near-manager" plan created by ordinance effective, June 1916. The results have been so satisfactory that there is every evidence she will now adopt a commission-manager charter. The present commissioners have pledged that if re-elected, they will call a charter election which will probably be held in July.

SAN DIEGO, CALIF. has a "manager of operations" who was widely heralded at the time the charter was amended to provide for the office, as a "city manager". Fred M. Lockwood who has held the position since it was created in 1915, has always referred to the plan as a "fifty-fifty" manager plan. His salary has been $6,000. The recently elected council with an alleged plea of economy has reduced the salary to $4,000 and Mr. Lockwood has resigned.

The Pennsylvania ordinance-created manager plans may be due for a shakeup. A bill abolishing the non-partisan feature of municipal elections has passed the Legislature, and has been before Governor Sproul for some time. He is holding off decision and it is hoped he may vote the act. If partisan politics are injected into municipal affairs at Altoona, Bethlehem and the other Pennsylvania manager cities, the results are difficult to forecast.

CITY PLANNING PROGRESS

HAYS, KANS. The proposed City planning and Welfare Committee will consist of the City Manager, the Mator, the College President, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, the Superintendent of Schools, a Protestant Minister, a Catholic Priest and two women active in community welfare work.

The new charter of Ranger, Texas, provides for a Board of City Development patterned after that at Amarillo, which has been copied in other instances.

WINNETKA, ILL. has recently completed a comprehensive city plan to guide the civic and industrial development for the next 50 years. E. H. Bennett was the consulting expert.

A city plan and community center are being prepared at GLENCOE, ILL.

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NEW MANAGERS FOR OLD

W. D. Slater has been chosen as acting manager to succeed E. O. Heinrich whose resignation becomes effective June 15th. Mr. Slater has served as director of public service under Mr. Heinrich.

Mr. Ephlin is the unanimous choice of the city council of Wheeling, West Va., for city manager. He was appointed May 31st to succeed Geo. O. Nagle, deceased.

Bonner Hill succeeds M. J. McChesney at Charleston, W. Va.

M. E. Martin is reported to have followed J. C. Caldwell as manager at Ocala, Fl.

W. H. Larson has been appointed manager at Electra, Tex.; Martin S. Ruby at Lubbock, Tex.; L. L. Ryan at McCracken, Kans.; M. E. Mitchell, Lufkin, Texas.

It is reported that F. G. Connelly is manager at Estherville, Iowa, and W. F. Hathaway at Anamosa, Iowa. Confirmation has not yet been received.

MEMBERSHIP ROLL INCREASING

Since publication of the last bulletin, the following members have enrolled:

ACTIVE: E. P. Bridges, City Manager, Griffin, Ga.
Abram Cook, City Manager, Cartersville, Ga.
C. A. Macomber, City Manager, San Anselmo, Calif.
Henry Traxler, City Manager, Clarinda, Iowa.
M. A. Turner, City Manager, Ranger, Texas.

ASSOC.: David X. Clarin, engineer, 317 West 88th St., New York City.
Geo. A. Cottrell, experienced in town government, Staunton, Va.
Robt. H. Erley, village engineer, Grosse Pointe Farms, Mich.
V. J. Hultquist, Supt. of Construction Aluminum Co. of Am. Maryville, Tenn.
Ben Jones, City Clerk, Lyons, Kansas.
N. J. League of Municipalities - Homer Talbot, Princeton, N. J.
Lockport Board of Commerce, Raymond B. Gibbs, Sec., Lockport, N.Y.
Ernest E. Lothrop, municipal engineer, Fitchburg, Mass.
C. C. Ludwig, Bureau of Municipal Research, Rochester, N. Y.
Massena Board of Trade, Andrew J. Hammer, Massena, N. Y.
Hubert P. Matte, State Sanitary Engineer, Springfield, Ill.
Municipal Reference Bureau, Mabel Inness, Dir., Galesburg, Ill.
Nebraska Legislative Reference Bureau, Univ. of Neb., Lincoln, Neb.
B. V. Pardee, lawyer and student of city affairs, Sacramento, Calif.

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QUESTION BOX

Cassius C. Smith, Montrose, Colo.: "Where will the next convention be held and when?"

W. M. Rich, Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.: Requests copies of managers' annual reports.

Ray S. Blinn, Lapeer, Mich.: Requests sample forms, especially accounting and finance.

R. H. Hunter, Ambridge, Pa.: "Do you know of any way that the day might be lengthened?"

Chas. T. Park, Alpena, Mich.: "Do you handle your fire and police departments with one head? If so, what success do you have?

P. H. Beauvais, Manistee, Mich.: "Which is the more satisfactory, road oil or "Tarvia B" for cinder roadways? Is "Tarzia B" used for laying cinders?"

C. A. Macomber, San Anselmo, Calif.: "Assuming experience equal, which of the following is best fitted to manage a city: Mechanical engineer, civil engineer, sanitary engineer, public service manager, municipal engineer, public utilities manager, or business manager?"

Wm. R. Prouder, Kingsport, Tenn.: "Tennessee has finally passed a workmens' compensation act. What do the managers do generally, accept the opportunity to come under the provisions of the act or exercise the option provided of remaining outside?"

"Who has worked out a good form for use in reporting on house to house inspection of premises for fire prevention? Mail it to me this instant."

Fred H. Locke, Grand Rapids, Mich.: "Which gives best service for street cleaning, a power flusher or motor sweeper?" "Are unions or other organizations among city employees conductive to best results? "What is the proper attitude for city managers to take, or how are they best handled?"

ASSOCIATION NEWS

Barnwell sent in that achievement report.

Lapeer, Mich. has appropriated $40,000 for concrete paving.

Cartersville, Ga. votes on $90,000 bond issue for extension of sewers, June 21st.

Manager Abbott of Otsego, Mich. reports that Allegan is talking commission-manager government.

Kalamazoo has purchased the first 1919 model "Elgin" motor street cleaner to be installed in Michigan.

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Manistee, Mich. has purchased a 5-ton tandem road roller and a force feed 600 gallon road oiler.

Col. Henry M. Waite has been released from army duties and is now vice-president and chief engineer of the Lord Construction Co., New York.

Stamford, Texas is advertising for bids to dam the Brazos River and pump 2,000,000 gallons daily a distance of 15 miles to the city. E. A. Burrows is manager.

Manager Prouder of Kingsport has supervised the setting out of some $3,000 of trees and shrubs donated to the city. New parkways have been dedicated and are being improved.

Gaylord C. Cummin. formerly manager at Grand Rapids and Jackson, Mich. is now with the Institute for Public Service, 51 Chambers St., New York City, as consulting expert on public utilities.

Royal Oak, Mich. passed a $45,000 waterworks extension bond issue May 3rd. An item of interest reported by Manager Weitzel is that of a possible 1200 voters, but 600 are registered; only 83 voted and of this number, but 6 were women.

C. C. Smith of Montrose suggests that managers who have found weak spots in their charters, particularly in reference to limitation of appointive powers, make it a point to send in statements on the subject. A good idea.

A. G. Jaffa, manager at Roswell, N. Mex. is having great success in substituting motor trucks and tractors for horses and mules. Information and comparative costs will be furnished by him on request. He is using the National Standard Truck Cost System and endorses its use.

Albuquerque, N. Mex. is advertising for bids for 100,000 yds. of street paving and 12,000 yds of alley paving; also 50,000 ft. curb and gutter, 35,000 yds. of grading, 6,000 ft. storm sewer and 12,000 ft. water main. This is the first step toward carrying out a three year improvement plan.

Grand Haven, Mich., I. R. Ellison, manager, has consolidated the fire and police departments under one head and motorized the fire department. A $150,000 bond issue has been voted for a new high school building. Construction has been started on 4 miles of concrete paving. A municipal hospital is being equipped and a police matron and public health nurse will be employed.

Manager J. C. Manning's survey of conditions at Hays, Kans. and the results of his first fortnight on the new job have called forth a front page column in the Kansas City Star of May 24th. He seems to have made a Douglas Fairbanks entrance into the new profession. Incidentally, while engineer of S. Haven, Mich., Mr. Manning developed some handy cost accounting forms.

Among recently reported salary raises are: E. A. Beck, Auburn, Me., from $3,600 to $5,400; F. H. Locke, Grand Rapids, Mich., from $4,000 to $5,000; H. H. Sherer, Glencoe, Ill., from $4,000 to $4,500; J. H. Sanders, Crystal Falls, Mich., from $2,400 to $3,000; Abram Cook, Cartersville, Ga., from $2,100 to $2,400; G. O. Gregg, Iowa City, Iowa, from $1,600 to $1,800.